

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraphs [0005] through [0009] with the following paragraphs rewritten in amendment format:

[0005] ~~The~~ Some embodiments of the present invention overcomes the shortcomings of the previously known approaches for shutting down burner operation upon sensing the presence of flammable vapors, by blowing a fuse for disabling the burner control circuit. This prevents further operation of the appliance until the flammable vapor sensing apparatus can be replaced or serviced. The apparatus can be used for both a new production appliance, and also for replacement of an existing appliance without the need for wiring electrical power to the appliance. The low current draw of the flammable vapor sensing circuit allows for prolonging the life of the batteries, which are capable of generating sufficient current to overload a fuse for disabling burner operation.

[0006] It is ~~therefore~~ an ~~object~~ aspect of the present invention to provide an apparatus capable of sensing the presence of flammable vapors in the ambient environment around a fuel-fired heating appliance, and responsively shutting down and locking out further operation of the appliance burner until the apparatus can be serviced.

[0007] Another ~~object~~ aspect of the present invention is to provide an apparatus that can be easily installed on a fuel-fired appliance, for enabling shut down of the appliance burner when flammable vapors are present.

[0008] Another ~~object~~ aspect of the present invention is to provide an apparatus for detecting the presence of flammable vapors having a simplified construction with low cost, long battery life and reliable operation.

[0009] Still another ~~object~~ aspect of the present invention is to provide an apparatus that can alert an occupant of a low battery condition by intermittently activating an audible alarm, and can further alert an occupant of flammable vapor presence by fully activating an audible alarm.